

END OF A LIFE TRAGEDY IN RUM

MISS ADA SWEETSER FOUND MURDERED AMONG DEAD BEAST DOGS.

Died in Her Hovel at Bayville, Where Other of Her Dogs Were Dyed, Like Her Mistress, of Starvation.—With Wealthy Relatives, She Lived a Pariah's Life.

BAYVILLE, L. I., Aug. 4.—Ada Sweetser, an old woman who was believed by her neighbors here to be an outcast from a wealthy New York family, died in her hovel last night of starvation and in extreme equalor.

She had several dogs, two cats and three or four chickens about her. Two of the dogs started to death with her. The others now are more dead than alive.

Miss Sweetser had been a good deal of mystery to her neighbors during the three years she lived in Bayville. She never allowed any of them to enter her house. But from time to time she took in some wanderer, man or beast, to some of whom her hovel and scant fare seemed less miserable than his own lot.

She talked much of her fine family and of her wealth. Letters which were found in the hovel of rubbish with which the place was littered showed that there was at least some basis for these stories.

About the time that her neighbors finally learned of her, until her death last night, she gave the neighbors an opportunity to ransack her penance house, was that she came to Bayville from Long Swamp, near Huntington.

The people of Long Swamp were not so patient with their curiosity as the people of Bayville have been. When they found that they could not get into her house they made her drunkenness and the charity which she showed to wayfarers men and dogs the excuse for driving her out of her home there and burning it down as a public nuisance.

With Miss Sweetser, when she came here, was a man who was said to be her nephew, and who is once or twice referred to in the letters from her family which have been examined today. He was sent to the poorhouse by the county authorities some time ago. Then there was an aged cripple whom she took in and cared for until he died and was buried by the town.

For the past few months Miss Sweetser seemed to have taken to drink more and more. She was disposed of some of her miserable clothing to negroes in Oyster Bay, to get the money with which to buy drink.

She was constantly writing to her relatives that money sent failed to reach her. This was apparently a subterfuge, because there were certainly many of the letters among those which she did receive which spoke of money received with them. The letter of the past date would say that the writer was sorry the previous letter had not arrived and that the money had been lost.

Among those who sent money were Mrs. J. J. Saporita of Peanocco Hills, who wrote often and encouragingly. Miss Sweetser's niece, Mrs. S. S. N. Marvin, of 415 West 12th street, New York, also sent her money.

Miss Sweetser lived in a small room on the second floor of 124 Jerusalem street, near the city hall.

Nearly every letter spoke of an inclosure of \$1 a month.

A grocer here says that he received a monthly check for supplying Miss Sweetser with groceries and provisions. Toward the last, certainly, she did not avail herself of this supply.

Some of the people in the road houses near the lonely lane in which Miss Sweetser lived noticed all last week that she had not been seen about as much as usual. Frequently they had had occasion before to pick her up out of the roadway where she was lying unconscious from drink and carry her to the house.

Last night Charles Bell of this place heard from a boy who had come down the lane that "something was wrong over at Miss Sweetser's." He went to the house.

No answer was made to his knock. He broke in and found the old woman lying almost unconscious on a pile of bedding on the floor. She was as cold as ice.

A few words were said to her. She gave him Mrs. Marvin's address and that of Mrs. Orville, and that of Ammon Lane, care of Lane & Co., dry goods, Leonard street, New York.

Bell did what he could to make her more comfortable, but she could not be moved without the most intense pain. He sent for Dr. Richard H. H. of East Valley, who found that she was beyond medical help. She died last night.

When her body was moved it was found that decomposition had begun. A part of the body before death. A bottle with about two ounces of whiskey left in it lay beneath her body. She had been too weak to raise it to her lips. A bit of paper found on the floor near the pallet bore these words:

"I am very hungry to go out Sunday and yesterday for my dinner or supper, but I could not get out. I am very hungry to eat, as there was not one morsel in my house. I never saw such work in my life. I am just dying by inches leading such a life. I cannot rest."

In a closet in the room in which Miss Sweetser died were the bodies of two dogs wrapped in newspapers. A dead chicken lay by the window. The windows of the house were covered with wide-meshed netting, that none of the pets might escape. There were four living dogs. Their ribs showed, and none was strong enough to stand on its legs long at a time.

In another room two cats were found in similar misery. The neighbors who gathered around the hovel took the animals home with them to be fed and taken care of. The dogs were of nondescript breed. It was the woman's habit to take in any stray animal that came along and make it a partner of her meagre lot.

The town undertaker took charge of the body today, but it has not been removed from the house. The members of Miss Sweetser's family will be notified as yet to the communications sent to them.

Mrs. O'Brien of Bayville, who had known Miss Sweetser for many years, including the time she lived at the hovel, said that she had heard of her death. She said that she had heard of her death. She said that she had heard of her death.

When she was a young girl, according to the story related by Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Sweetser stole a bottle of whiskey from her father. After that she had such a strong liking for whiskey that she obtained it at every opportunity.

She studied music and when she was 20 years old went on the stage as a singer. She was wine and dined, she told Mrs. O'Brien, and that completed her ruin.

Then she had a love affair which had a sad end. After that she decided to devote the rest of her life to dogs and tramps and other unfortunate.

There is no Lane & Co., according to the directory, in Leonard street. Lane & Barrows, woolen merchants, are at 52 Leonard street, but the senior member of this firm is Albert W. Lane, of New York. Mr. Lane is in the West. His partner, Mr. Barrows, said last night that he didn't know any Miss Sweetser and that so far as he knew Mr. Lane had been married.

Mrs. Marvin lived here yesterday, saying she was going to Bayville, where her aunt was dead. Mrs. Orville, mentioned in the dispatch, does not live at the Brooklyn address.

GLAD 63 Years Old Kills Himself.

WILSON RIDGE, N. J., Aug. 4.—Mrs. Anna V. L. Pierson, widow of Dr. William Hugh Pierson, inventor of celluloid, committed suicide by hanging at her home in Forest avenue shortly after noon today. Her body was discovered by her son, John V. L. Pierson, who reached his home about 12:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Pierson had been in poor health for some time. She had been attempting to take her life. Mrs. Pierson was 63 years old.

AARON HALLE PUT TO DEATH.

Th-Murderer of Mamie Brannigan Hanged for Murder by the State.

OSKINS, N. Y., Aug. 4.—Aaron Halle was put to death in the electric chair at Sing Sing Prison today for murdering Mamie Brannigan. He had been in the prison for two years and two months. He met his doom with calmness, after spending a night of continuous prayer with Rabbi Davidson of New York, who was with him when he breathed his last in the chair.

As he passed the cells of the men condemned to death Halle shouted to them, "Good-bye, boys." He waited an instant for a reply, and the shrill voice of Albert T. Patrick, awaiting execution for the murder of William Marsh Rice, could be heard saying, "Good-bye to you, old boy."

Halle seemed deeply interested in the acts of his executioners. As he put himself in what he deemed a proper position the current was sent through his body at a voltage of 1,100. After three applications of the current the physicians pronounced Halle dead. Dr. Arthur L. Newman of Patterson, N. J., fainted as the third shock was administered and fell on his face. He was carried out into the prison yard and soon recovered. It was the first execution Dr. Newman had attended and the slight, coupled with the fact he had not eaten breakfast, overcame him.

An undertaker removed Halle's body to New York. His parents claimed the body, otherwise it would have been buried in quicklime in the prison cemetery.

Halle murdered Mamie Brannigan on May 10, 1900, in a department store at Third and Fifth streets, after she had refused to marry him.

Under a guard Halle was taken to the city hall, where he was married to a woman named Mary. The ceremony was performed by a justice of the peace.

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SOCIETY'S OWN RACECOURSE.

THAT'S THE FIRST DAY VERDICT AT SARATOGA.

Exclusive Folks Not in the Majority, but They Predominated and Set the Pace. Some Who Were There—Gatekeepers Said to Have Cleaned Up \$50,000.

SARATOGA, Aug. 4.—The gates of the American Newmarket swung outward this afternoon and the talk of Saratoga tonight on the hotel piazzas, at the club, in the drawing rooms, wherever men and women are gathered together, is the talk of the refashioned Saratoga racecourse. What seems to be the case is that everybody is the domination of the fashionable world over everything in and about the new course.

Not even in the days of Monmouth Park and the old Saratoga Racing Association, when the brothers Jerome and Lordillard, William H. Travers, David Dunham Withers, August Belmont and John Thurnham, the dominant factors in American racing, had the atmosphere of fashionable society so surrounded an American race track. Not a tout or a tipster was allowed within the enclosure of the course, and the commission who follow the field races to take the bets of the women were few and far between.

When old turfmen take sufficient notice of the new conditions to gather in groups and talk about the change, instead of discussing the races of to-day and the entries of the morrow, as they are doing tonight, it may be taken for granted that a change that is felt has been wrought at the Saratoga course. Old turfmen are not usually given to paying much attention to such things. They care little about the social surroundings of a race track. What interests them is a good field, no favors and the chance to win or lose a bet.

Among the turfmen of an older generation who are here is Charles Reed, proprietor of Fairview stock farm in Tennessee, once a partner of John Morrissey and once the lessee of the Saratoga course. He sat on the porch at the Grand Union Hotel talking to a number of friends about the day's racing. In the course of his talk he said:

"They've got a fine course up yonder now, and it will be better next year than it is now. But they've doubled the track. They call it the American Newmarket. That's all wrong. It's the American Epimetheus. There's no track in the world where the fashions are so entirely in the lead. The air up there today was so altogether fashionable that it was a bit too rare for a good many. If that's what the new management was after, that's what it's got, and it ought to be so."

There was not so large a representation of fashionable society in the clubhouse and grandstand as to the "fashionable," to use Mr. Reed's expression, in the majority of the race. There was a few people, but they were not the people who were in the lead. The air up there today was so altogether fashionable that it was a bit too rare for a good many. If that's what the new management was after, that's what it's got, and it ought to be so."

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WIFE IN SECRET SEVEN YEARS.

MISS CUSHING OF SYRACUSE SAYS SHE'S MRS. PACKARD.

She's a Society Girl and a Cousin of the Dickinsons and He's a Jew and a Broker—Marriage by Contract, She Alleges—His Folks Say No Marriage.

SYRACUSE, Aug. 4.—Miss Mary Willard Cushing, a beautiful society girl, who is a cousin of former United States Senator Daniel S. Dickinson, announced today that she had been married for seven years to Moses Packard, a wealthy Jew of this city. She says that no ceremony was performed and that the marriage was kept secret on account of the opposition of Packard's parents, who objected to her on account of her being a Christian. Miss Cushing says she has a civil contract of marriage signed by Packard.

Packard is a member of the firm of M. & N. J. Packard, brokers. The Packards' name was changed from Pakelinsky. Miss Cushing says her husband wanted to keep the marriage secret for fear his father would withdraw business support from him.

Matters came to a crisis last week and Miss Cushing demanded that the marriage be announced. Then Packard left town. She has employed counsel and will sue him for desertion. She says he has gone to Montana.

The Packard family here deny that there was ever a marriage. Miss Cushing was a